

REMARKS

Claims 1, 3-12 and 14-15 are pending in the present application. Of the pending claims, Claims 1, 3-6, 9-12 and 14-15 have been rejected and Claims 7 and 8 are objected to. Claims 2 and 13 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter contained therein. The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the rejections and objections in view of the amendments and remarks contained herein.

The Applicants thank the Examiner for the indication of allowable subject matter in Claims 2, 7 and 8 if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims and in Claims 9-12, 14 and 15 if rewritten to overcome the rejections under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, set forth in this office action and to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claims 9-12, 14 and 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicants regard as the invention. Each of the informalities noted by the Examiner has been addressed for placing the claims in compliance with Section 112, second paragraph.

With regard to the variable "t_c," Claim 10 has been amended to recite that this variable refers to "an actual uncut chip thickness." This recitation is supported at page 16 of the specification, as originally filed. Applicant believes that each of the other variables as set forth in Claims 9-12 have been adequately defined and the rejected claims are now in condition for allowance.

With regard to Claims 14-15, the Examiner has stated that there is insufficient antecedent basis for "the tool" as cited in each of these claims. Each of these claims has been amended to incorporate the limitations of Claim 13 for placing them in condition for allowance. Both of the now independent claims recite "a tool" in the preamble which provides sufficient antecedent basis for placing the later reference in compliance with Section 112, 2nd paragraph. Reconsideration of these rejections is thus respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 3-6, and 13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Reid-Green (U.S. Patent No. 4,423,481). With regard to Claims 1 and 3-6, the features of Claim 2 have been incorporated into Claim 1. Claim 2 is now cancelled. With regard to Claim 13, Claims 14 and 15 have been amended to incorporate the limitations of Claim 13. Both of these claims are now in independent form and allowable.

CONCLUSION


Accordingly, in view of the above amendments and remarks, reconsideration of the objections and rejections and allowance of each of Claims 1, 3-12 and 14-15 in connection with the present application is earnestly solicited.

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number indicated below.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 08-0750 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

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